## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: Y. MIYAKI et al

Serial No. 09/978,708 Filed: October 18, 2001

Group Art: 2827 Examiner: L. Thai

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND ITS

MANUFACTURING METHOD

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 21, 2003

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application as follows.